

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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FEBRUARY IS PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH

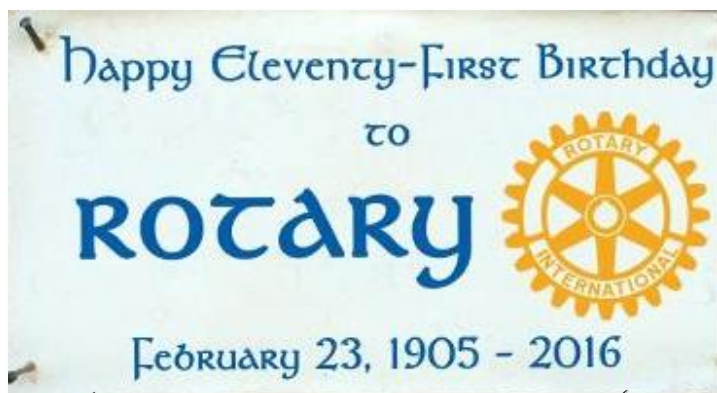
Today: Ernie Daykin - Non-Profit Housing and related issues

Next Week: Greta Borick-Cunningham - Alouette River Management Society

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Mar. 5		Membership Seminar	Rotary Field House, Surrey, WA, US
Apr. 16	7 pm - 10 pm	Rotary Wine Festival	ValleyFair Mall, Maple Ridge
Apr. 30 - May 1		District Conference	Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine, WA.
May 12-15		RYLA	WA, United States
Aug. 7		Rotary Duck Race	Maple Ridge Park



Our 1.2 million-member organization started with the vision of one man—Paul P. Harris. The Chicago attorney formed one of the world's first service organizations, the Rotary Club of Chicago, on 23 February 1905 as a place where professionals with diverse backgrounds could exchange ideas and form meaningful, lifelong friendships. Rotary's name came from the group's early practice of rotating meetings among the offices of each member.

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

While Nelly Furtado's rendition of O' Canada was slammed by NBA All Star fans at the game on Saturday night, Sharon's Kyle's rendition at the Rotary meeting on Tuesday noon was praised by Rotary fans everywhere [well, at least those in attendance at the meeting. Did you hear about our Rotary meeting, when Sharon was not there but we still sang on key? Neither did I.]

Rotary Moment

Dave Rempel had a great Rotary moment a number of years ago when he connected with the Novosibirsk Rotary club which was organized on August 15, 1995. Our club donated three walkers and a wheelchair to the Russian orphanage, and later members of the Novosibirsk Rotary club were hosted by our Rotary club here in the year that Laurie Anderson was president. [Which just goes to show that a Rotary "moment" can stay around with you for years.]

Guests

We were pleased to welcome once again Tanis Glenn who started Rotary on the south side of the river, but is now working and living in Maple Ridge and is considering becoming a member of our club.

Mark Forster celebrated a birthday on February 19 and Deborah Hyslop and Kerisma Vere celebrated an anniversary on February 20.

Cheque Presentations

Community Services chair **Adrienne Dale** was pleased to present a cheque in the amount of \$500 to **Ineke Boekhorst on behalf of the Maple Ridge Festival of Lights** organization which was organized in 2010. This event is a multicultural community event where various groups in Maple Ridge participate in singing, dancing, and other cultural stuff. This year the event is to be held on Friday, February 19 at the Haney Place Mall.



Wearing another of her many hats, Ineke also accepted a cheque of \$725 on behalf of the **Friends in Need Food Bank**. This money will be well spent towards the purchase of tent, which is much needed and well used by the food bank at the many rainy community any events where it collects food for this important society.

Happy and Sad

Mark Vosper donated a fast buck, saying he was happy to be back after having missed a couple of meetings.

Laurie Anderson gave a happy dollar, thanking Pres. Mark and Pauline for their hospitality and all of the hard work they did putting on a really great dinner at the club's fireside meeting at their home on Friday February 12.

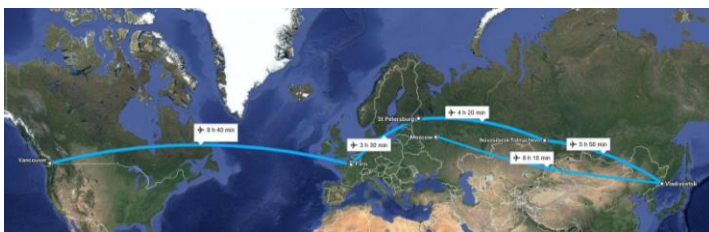
Ineke Boekhorst donated at least one fantastically happy dollar, also thanking Mark and Pauline for the fireside event [she would have donated two dollars, except Pauline refused to give permission for Ineke to take Mark home to cook at her and Peter's house].

Fine Master and Mystery Greeter

Sharon Kyle did a Fine job collecting money from everyone who didn't attend the fireside, and therefore collected many more loonies than it did Mysterious **Patrick O'Brien**, as almost everybody had sought him out to shake his hand.

Program - International Committee – Trip to Russia

Dave Rempel and **Ineke Boekhorst** filled us in on their International Committee trip to Russia [aka their "Russian Endurance trip", given all the clubs they visited, sights they saw, and the fact that these spring chickens flew some enormous distances].



Ineke flew almost 34,000 km, travelling to Paris, St. Petersburg, Novosibirsk, Vladivostok, Moscow, Amsterdam and Vancouver, while David did a bit better with almost 40,000 km, making a side trip from Moscow to Karagandy and Almaty in Kazakhstan, and then via Amsterdam back home.

They crossed 18 time zones!

Their trip had several purposes:

- **to reconnect with former Meadow Ridge Rotary International projects**, including:



- supporting an orphanage in Novosibirsk,
- partnering with the Novosibirsk club to build a solarium,
- the boys reform school in Usurisk [for which we purchased a dump truck which they are still using, and computers, and hockey jerseys which they loved].



- **to connect with Russian Rotary clubs and see their projects.**

They visited the following Rotary clubs and their projects:



- St. Petersburg (park benches),
- Novosibirsk (where they saw their Rotary Park and met Rotary members from all three Rotary clubs in that city),
- Vladivostok,
- Moscow (international music competition),
- Kostroma (a satellite club of Moscow),
- Kazakhstan-Almaty (bike racks).

- **to see if there is an appetite to partner on possible new projects**



- Vladivostok orphanage - much needed equipment
- Usurisk - sports equipment for boys school
- Kostroma - developing staff training in an orphanage

- **for Dave to put some "closure" to past adoptions, great past connections and visit Kazakhstan**

- **to experience Russia from a tourist perspective**

50-50

Jim Coulter showed how it is not done, by cutting the King of Spades, thereby leaving in 35 cards in the deck and over \$300 in the kitty.

Submitted by **Laurie Anderson**